A True

RELATION

Of the Great

VICTORY,

Obtained by the *King* of the *Abiſſines*, called

Preſter John,

Againſt the

TURKS.

In taking the Flouriſhing City of *Habalee*, and Deſtroying 100000 *Ottomons*.

As Alſo

A Coppy of a Letter from on Board of his Majeſties Ship the *Pearl*, (riding then at *Lisbon*) from a Gentleman to his Brother in *London*, giving an Account of ſeveral remarkable paſſages and Rencounters againſt the *Sally Men*.

FRom *Venice* they Write that they had a certain Relation by a *Turkiſh* Ship from *Alexandria*, That *Preſter John*, King of the *Abiſſines*, (having been informed of the *Chriſtians* Succeſs over the *Turks*:) had forthwith ſent his Nephew prince *Joſephat*, and his Son *Stephen Tingel*, with an Army of 400000 Men to Beſiege the Great and Famous City *Habalee*: (in which were 4000 *Canons*, and 18000 Men the *Turkiſh* Governor, having refuſed the Surrendring thereof, with an anſwer he would Defend it to the Laſt) Prince *Joſephat*, made himſelf Maſter thereof in the ſpace of 14 Hours and put all the Garriſon to the Sword, and found therein 100000 Millons in ready Coin, beſides more precious Things of a double Value: (all the Merchants of *Aſia*, *Perſia*, and *Ægypt*, having their Store-Houſes there.) After which Victory, the Cities *Leobin*, two Days Journey from *Habalee* and *Dama-Gazon*, Surrennred themſelves: and the Victorious Prince with his Army proceeded, and Burnt 3000 Villages: which gave ſuch a Dread to all *Ægypt*, that 600000 of the Inhabitants Fled to the City *Grand Cairo*, Diſtant 6 Days Journey from *Corbint*: which Prince *Joſaphat* has ſince Beſieged. And we expect by the firſt to have Advice of its being Surrendred or taken. *Preſter John*, hath in the mean time ſent to acquaint the King of *Perſia* with his happy Victory: (having ſince the firſt Siege before *Habalee*, Deſtroyed 100000 *Ottomons*.) And deſires him alſo to Advance his Arms againſt the *Turks*: to which there is no doubt but the *Zophi* will agree.

The

The LETTER.

SIR,

AFter my Departure from *London*, I have with a fervent Deſire Expected an Anſwer, upon ſo many Letters as I have ſent you by all Opportunities; but conſidering the uncertainty of the *Poſt*, reciprocally I aſcribe my Unhappineſs thereunto, but cannot miſs this Opportunity once more: (if you will be pleaſed to forgive the reiteratron of my troubleſome Lines) to wiſh your Health and Proſperity, and acquaint you with mine, which Bleſſed be God coutinues good; and withal give you a brief Account of thoſe Paſſages I have hitherto met with in my Voyage, *viz.*

After the Demoliſhing of *Tangier*, in which I was no leſs Active than in hazard (of which Mr. *Faulkner* has given you an Account) to have loſt my Life, tho Eſcaping with a dangerous Wound and Bruiſe by Blowing up of the *Caſtle*: in which mutual Danger two Gentlemen belonging to our Ship, were Kill'd: our Ship, with four others were left behind; with Order to Cruize thoſe Seas, and Attaque ſuch *Sally men* of War, with which we ſhould meet or have advice of, accordingly we put to Sea the *4th* of *June*, ſetting forth for *Lisbon*, the place of our Rendevouze, and the ſame Day came in ſight of a Sail, which we gave Chaſe, putting out *French* Colours, and coming up to her within a League, made her our Enemy; whereupon ſhe turned and ſteared her Courſe before the Wind, which in Purſuite of her, we did alſo and the next Day came within Shot of her, and then knew her to be the Admiral of *Sally*: we Fired at her, and ſpoiled her Top-Gallon Sheets, but ſhe would not anſwer us, but uſeing all means to Eſcape, by the Darkneſs of the Night got from us, but the *Saphier* Frigot finding her at Anchor at the Bar of *Sally* (where ſhe could not paſs by reaſon of the lowneſs of Water) Sunk her, took the Captain and forty *Moors* out of the Water, beſides forty *Engliſh* Slaves: and afterwards forcing the Captain to tell them where ſhe might find any more of *Sally*, he bid her ſtear 30 Leagues of *Sally*, where ſhe would find a *Sally man* of War, with a *Dutch* Prize which he had Taken: which the *Saphier* doing according to the Captains Words found, Fought, and took them, and brought them to *Cadiz*, and we Daily Expect them here. The *Dutch-mans* Ship was laden with *Sugar* and *Oyl*. The *Sally man*, had 18 *Guns*, and the other 16. Since which we had the Chance to meet with the biggeſt *Sally man* of War on the Ninth of *June* in the Morning, who at firſt came up towards us, ſuppoſing us to be a Merchant-Man, but finding to the Contrary, turn'd her Courſe, and by Rowing, (it being Calm) outrun us, but a freſh Gale of Wind ariſing, in the Morning following, about two a Clock we came up with him, and about Day-light Fought him for two Hours at a Diſtance, and it proving Calm loſt him out of our Sight, and all hopes of taking him: notwithſtanding, which, we fetched him up on the *10th.* about Mid-night, and for fear of looſing him, came on and Fired a Broad-ſide to awaken him, he anſwered us in like manner, and bid us Strike, promiſing good Quarters; but after 7 Hours ſharp Fight, we maſtered him, having only one Kill'd, with the Boat-Swain. They had 150 *Mores*, and 30 *Engliſh* Slaves, 4 *French Men*, and 6 *Dutch-Men* on Board. There were 50 Kill'd and Wounded. The Captain was a very Stout Man, but Died of his Wound: he was ſo Couragious that we Shot his Main-top and Miſſen-top Maſts and the Main and Fore-Yard a way before he would Strike. And all our Maſts were diſabled She had 24 *Guns*, and ſix *Patterreries*: and ſo ſerved us for Breakfaſt, the Morning of the Eleventh of *June*. He confeſſed that 2 or 3 Days before he had taken 3 Prizes and conveyed them to *Sally*. So being loath to trouble you any further, I ſhall conclude with my hearty Wiſhes to proſper you and your Family (to which I deſire my Love to be remembred) and remain till Death,

From a board the Pearl, July, *the 23d. ſent by the Swan Friget, by one which was retaken from a* Sally man *of War.*

Your affectionate Friend
John Miles.

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